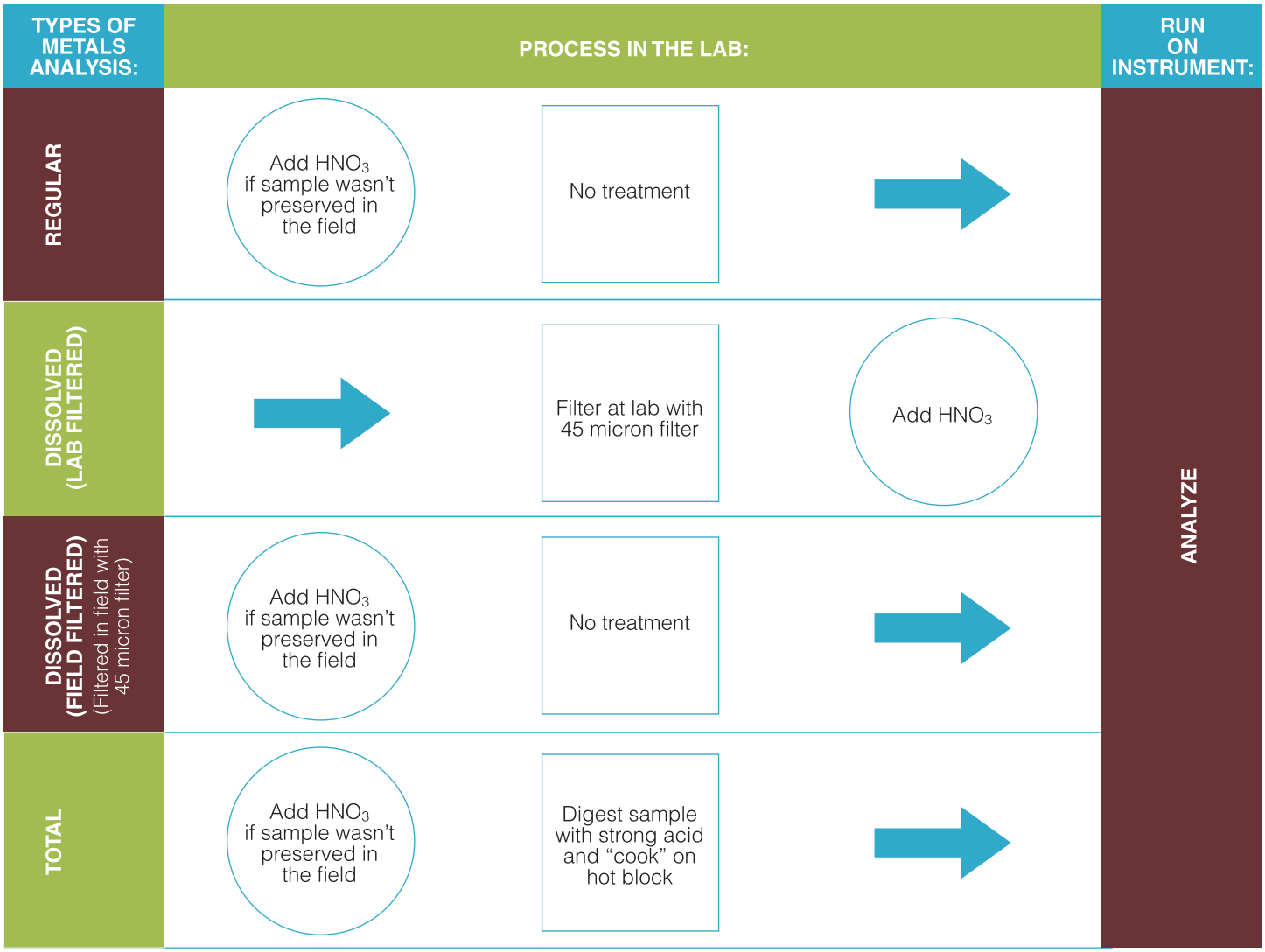
METALS ANALYSIS OF WATER

Metals are typically analyzed in the lab by ICP/MS. A full metal scan on a sample can provide concentrations for over 50 different metals. However, it is important to request the correct "type" of metal analysis to ensure you are meeting regulatory requirements. Below is a flow chart depicting the four common "types" of metal analyses you have available to you (for a water matrix). Please be sure to indicate on your Chain which type of metals analysis you require and whether you have field filtered your sample:



REGULAR METALS – required for regulated drinking water samples (Reg. 170/03, 319)
DISSOLVED (LAB FILTERED) METALS – the lab filters the sample; generally required for ground water (to remove sediment prior to analysis and preservation) when requested by the client on the Chain of Custody; preservative can only be added at lab after filtration
DISSOLVED (FIELD FILTERED) METALS – Sampler filters the sample in the field prior to sample preservation; generally required for ground water (to remove sediment prior to analysis and preservation); required for O. Reg. 153/04* submissions
TOTAL METALS – generally required for surface water; required for PWQO and MISA submissions

*if you are unable to field filter when taking a groundwater sample under O. Reg. 153, you can submit the sample to the lab unfiltered and unpreserved, but the lab ***MUST*** filter and preserve the sample within 24 hours of sampling.